AMBASSADOR THOMAS NELSON PAGE, JAMES HAY, Jr., ERNEST P. BICKNELL, S. P. MORRIS, DR. W. M. POST, in this issue

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS MAGAZINE

FOUNDED TO AID IN THE PREVENTION AND ALLEVIATION OF HUMAN SUFFERING IN TIMES OF WAR AND PEACE

JUNE 1915

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THE AMERICAN RED CROSS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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VOLUME TEN NUMBER SIX

The American Red Cross Magazine

EDITED BY AUSTIN CUNNINGHAM

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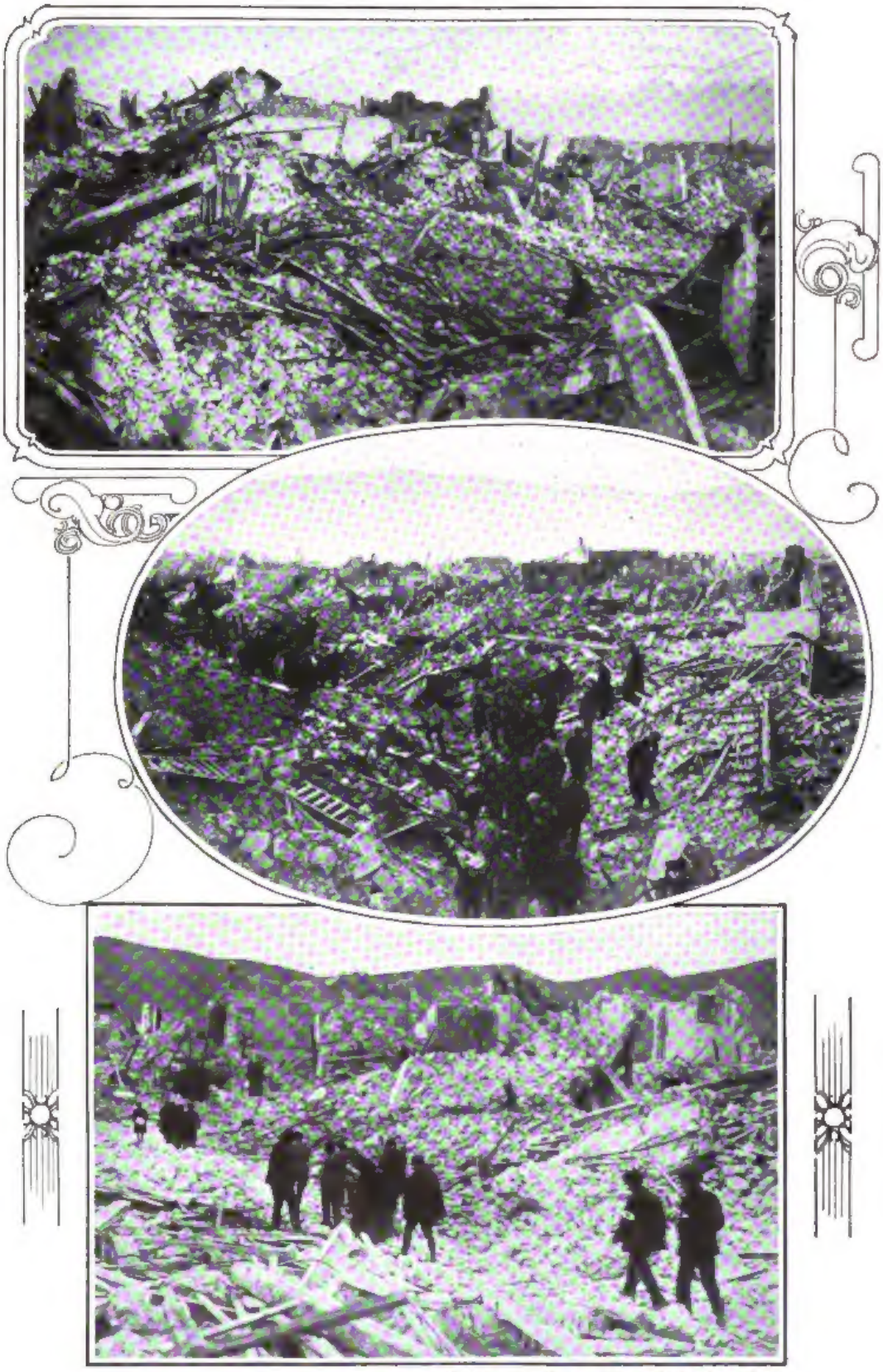

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THE FRIGHTFUL DEVASTATION WROUGHT BY THE RECENT ITALIAN EARTHQUAKE

Scenes in Avezzano. The dead and wounded numbered 20,000

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After the Abruzzi Earthquake

by Thomas Nelson Page
UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO ITALY

THE earthquake which caused such havoc to lives and property in the Abruzzi and the Valley of the Liri on the 13th of January was felt severely at Rome. The material damage was not great, nor were any lives lost, but the city was badly shaken up, and the sensation was far from pleasant. The shock occurred within a few minutes of eight o'clock on Wednesday morning. Walls swayed and in places cracked, brick and stone fell from some of the more baroque churches; the statue on the column in the Piazza Colonna was partly turned around; the arched vaulting in the old gate at the Piazza del Popolo was cracked and the gate has since been closed to the public, and one of the heroic sized statues of the Apostles standing eight meters high and weighing several tons, on the top of the monumental facade of San Giovanni in Laterano, crashed to the ground breaking into fragments and demolishing one side of the flight of marble steps which led to the church. Such was the extent of the visible damage to Rome on the sunny morning of Wednesday January the thirteenth.

That there had occurred so great a calamity only a short distance from Rome was undreamed of. It was not until the afternoon of the 13th of January that the reports came to hand of grave damage and loss of life at Avezzano, a town of about eleven thousand inhabitants in what is known as the Basin of Fucino, in a valley among the Abruzzi Mountains, fifty miles or so to the east of Rome.

On the evening of the earthquake as soon as the magnitude of the catastrophe was appreciated, a preliminary report was immediately sent to the State Department. It stated that that morning about eight o'clock an earthquake shock had "swept through Central and part of Southern Italy, its chief effect being about Avezzano in the Abruzzi, where from best information as yet obtainable some eight thousand people were killed. Many other towns in that region, amongst others, Sora and Veroli and Torre di Caetano are reported to have suffered severely. The King has gone to the region affected."

The following morning the magnitude of the disaster began to be known. Two districts had suffered severely; the Basin of the Fucino and the Valley of the Liri, and to add to the confusion, both railway and telegraphic communication was interrupted in most parts.

I called that morning at the Ministry

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of the Interior to obtain the latest information and to learn what possible aid the Government of the United States could render, and I also tendered Baron Sonnino, Minister of Foreign Affairs, in a letter of this date, the profound sympathy of America upon the terrible disaster which had visited them.

OUTSIDE AID DECLINED.

At the time of my visit to the Department of the Interior, occasion was taken to make some personal inquiry to ascertain how far any tender of more substantial aid might be acceptable, should it be made, stating at the same time that although I was acting without instructions, I knew our people well enough to feel sure that substantial aid would be forthcoming promptly, and I especially referred to previous tenders of aid from the American Red Cross. That evening I received a reply expressing high appreciation of our sympathy, while at the same time it was stated that the Government had decided, in view of the international situation in Europe, and of embarrassments which might arise should outside aid be accepted, not to accept aid from foreign Governments or Associations. I thereupon telegraphed the Department of State to this effect and stated that the latest report of the earthquake from semi-official sources placed the dead at between twelve and fifteen thousand and the seriously injured at about as many more. The press reports made both considerably larger. I also reported having expressed our profound sympathy, together with other facts bearing upon the situation.

Photo by Harris & Ewing, Wash.

THE HON. THOMAS NELSON PAGE,
United States Ambassador to Italy, a member of the Board of Incorporators of the American Red Cross. Ambasador Page personally directed the relief work done by the American after the Abruzzi Earthquake.

Owing to the destruction of the telegraph, nothing definite was learned at that time from the authorities as to the extent of the calamity, and at noon, before this last telegram was sent, it was decided to send members of the Embassy Staff in automobiles to the affected region to be in a position to report to the Government more fully, and the better to render such aid as we might. As there was no objection to this step, at 4 p. m. one car—that of Mr. John P. S. Harrison—left Rome in charge of Mr. Norval Richardson, the Second Secretary of Embassy, with Lieutenant-Commander Train and Mr. Marion Sims Wyeth, by the Naples road, for the southernmost point of the disaster, carrying blankets for the women and children forced to spend the nights in the open. They visited Fiuggi, Castel Liri, Isola Liri and Sora. The weather was clear but very cold. The second car, Mr. Murray's, in charge of Colonel George Dunn, the Military Attaché, went over the mountains to Avezzano, the northern center of the disaster. Both parties returned to Rome and reported on the afternoon of Friday the fifteenth.

20,000 KILLED OR WOUNDED.

A telegraphic report was immediately sent to the Secretary of State, stating that two parties from the Embassy had visited the region desolated by the earthquake, covering a radius of thirty miles, and corroborated reports of the terrible devastation. It was also reported that

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Photos by Ettore Varnesi & Co., Rome.

RED CROSS AND GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES SEARCHING FOR BODIES IN THE ITALIAN EARTHQUAKE RUINS.

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the Government estimated the killed and wounded approximately at twenty thousand. The thanks of the Italian Government for tenders of aid were also reported, together with its desire not to accept aid from foreign countries, owing to the international situation in Europe.

On the evening of the 13th steps had been taken to form a committee of relief among the Americans; but owing to the statement of the Italian Government, that organized outside aid could not be accepted, this plan had to be abandoned. However, as aid from private sources was not subject to this prohibition, Mrs. Page, as the representative of the American ladies in Rome, received contributions from Americans here and at home, and in this way, from private sources, has collected up to the present date almost sixty thousand francs. Dr. Walter Lowrie, Rector of the American Church in Rome, was selected as the agent of the ladies in the application of this fund; among his other qualifications being a personal knowledge of the region devastated, and means were taken to send immediate aid to the most damaged sections of the Abruzzi.

Relief-supplies of food and clothing, blankets and material supplies, were purchased on the 15th, arrangements were made to receive supplies donated and provision was made to despatch a railway car to Scurcola, while automobiles would go to distribute the supplies. To do this it was necessary to secure the authority of the proper officers of the Government and Governmental Relief Committee who were busily at work. It was therefore not until the morning of the 17th, Sunday, that a freight-car loaded with food, medical supplies, blankets and clothing for women and children, left by the early morning train for Scurcola, in the basin of the Fucino, 13 kilometres from Avezzano, and at the junction of several roads leading into the valleys not reached by the railway. At the same time five automobiles carrying members of the Embassy and volunteers, including an American doctor, Dr. Edgar E. Hume, under Rev. Dr. Walter Lowrie, crossed the mountains through the snow, and met the train at Scurcola, to take part in the distribution of the provisions.

Our idea was to carry by motor, relief to the towns situated so far off the main track that they could be reached quickly in no other way. Our expedition met with success, and we were fortunate that Dr. Lowrie was personally acquainted with this district, having passed several summers in the Valley of the Fucino. Beginning with the afternoon of the 17th, Sunday, and making Tagliacozzo our headquarters for the nights, the work of distributing the provisions was carried on during the whole of the 18th, and part of the 19th. The towns of Torano, Russolo, Magliano di Marsi were visited, while some provisions were left at Scurcola, and a few at Avezzano. At Santa Anatolia our relief, in the nature of supplies, was the first to arrive and as we left the town with the empty automobiles we passed the squad of engineers advancing up the road for its occupation. From Torano we took back to the railway line two young women too seriously injured to be treated in the field hospital, and from Scurcola several others were taken back. At Avezzano an efficient organization existed and was in full operation under command of a General of Division. Also here we found an efficient Red Cross establishment. Troops had also been sent to many smaller places, and the Red Cross was also at work getting the wounded from these places.

AMBASSADOR TAKES ROUGH TRIP

I returned to Rome on the night of the 18th, leaving Dr. Lowrie and several of the party to continue the work of distribution. The road over the Abruzzi, even at that time was extremely difficult, owing to the snow. Since then, continual bad weather, piling snow two metres high along this route, has made it impossible at times to reach the basin of the Fucino from this side.

During my absence the offer of the American Red Cross Society was made through the Department of State, should the development of the situation have modified the attitude of the Italian Government. It was found, however, that the same attitude existed, and the offer was made only informally.

Within a few days after the earth-

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quake, two American ladies, Miss Vickery and Miss Llewellyn, who had charge of a large building on the Janiculum Hill, which had formerly been a school and orphanage in connection with the Methodist Church in Rome, but which was unoccupied this year, requested me to offer this building to the Municipality of Rome for use as a hospital. They stated that the building was simply but completely equipped and ready for occupancy, and that they themselves would undertake to pay the rent of the building during such occupation should it be requested by the American Board, whom they represented.

Photo by Ettore Varnesi & Co., Rome

ALL THAT REMAINS OF ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL BANKS IN THE EARTHQUAKE DISTRICT

This generous offer was immediately submitted to the Mayor of Rome, who accepted it promptly and sent a representative over to take possession that very afternoon.

The place was immediately filled with patients and when I visited it a little later there were fifty odd patients cared for and housed there. The understanding at first was that the Municipality would bear the expense of running it during its occupation, but Dr. B. M. Tipple, who had visited Avezzano, engaged to be responsible for the expenses and within a few days the American Board supplied Dr. Tipple here with funds with which to meet the running expenses and the ladies of the Methodist Church under Mrs. Tipple conducted the hospital—physicians and nurses being supplied by the Municipality. Through Signor de Nava, they received gifts of clothing from the Giornale d'Italia and the Tribuna. Madame Salandra also sent a generous donation from the Committee of Relief of which she was President. Quantities of material were brought, and Signora Salvatore Mastrogiovanni took charge of the work-room and supply-room. Every day during the month ladies met at the hospital to sew. Mrs. Walling Clark and Signora de Nava were her most efficient assistants. Many others came when they could, among whom

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were Mrs. Rundle, Mrs. Taglialatela, Signora Nitti, and Mrs. A. V. Greenman.

In addition to this two Americans, connected with the Baptist denomination here: Dr. Gill and Dr. Wittinghill, together with Mr. Benton, immediately upon the occurrence of the earthquake proceeded to carry relief to the region of San Benedetto, and having heard that we had furnished several automobiles to convey relief, applied to the Embassy to say that, if we had an automobile for their use, they would be glad to have it. Accordingly provision was made to supply one. They had a motor supply-wagon, which Mr. Benton had furnished, filled with supplies, and Mr. John P. S. Harrison having volunteered to take them in his car to the region where they were making distribution, we had the privilege of furnishing them with some money.

AMERICANS CARE FOR INJURED.

The Anglo-American nursing-home on the Via Nomentana, which, owing to the exigencies of the international situation in Europe had not been opened previously this winter, was, on the occurrence of the earthquake immediately opened, and offered to the municipality as a temporary hospital for the sufferers. The municipality agreed to allow 3 lire per day for each patient's food. Doctors Brock and Bastianelli volunteered their services as surgeons, and the contributions were raised by both English and Americans here in Rome. The contributions and the work connected with this institution, so far as Americans were concerned, were under the direction of Mrs. Dunn, wife of Colonel George Dunn, Military Attaché, Mrs. Alfred Parrish, Mrs. Bastianelli and Mrs. Murray, who together with three English ladies, divided the management and responsibility between them. An average of 33 patients were cared for daily, each one when leaving, being supplied with a complete outfit of new clothing, donated by different people. The Blue Sisters gave their services as nurses, with volunteer aid among the novices. The Duchess d'Aosta visited the hospital, and spoke in highest praise of its cleanliness and efficiency.

The funds which have since come to Mrs. Page have been distributed with a view to providing shelter to the extent of our capacity, as this has appeared the most pressing need, under the conditions mentioned. A part of these funds have been applied through the Gioventi Cattolica, an organization somewhat comparable to our Young Men's Christian Association, which we found during our visit to that region, had established a branch at Tagliacozzo, and appeared to us to be engaged in an efficient and far-reaching work, with an organization adequate to the application of such funds in the best and promptest manner. Another part of our fund has been applied through the agency of several charitable Americans who have been engaged for some time in work in that region. The greater part we are devoting to the construction of barracks and shelters for some of the thousands turned out in the snow, and we are at this moment engaged with the detail of this by no means small undertaking, and in sending aid to—among others—a few naturalized Americans who escaped with their lives and little else.

This work is being carried on by Dr. Walter Lowrie, representing us in connection with Hon. Prince Lanza di Scalea who had been working indefatigably in that region, and whose experience in connection with the Messina Earthquake Relief, united with his zeal and ability, have made him an invaluable coadjutor.

Besides the foregoing labors, considerable sums have been contributed by Americans here to Italian Committees, and private persons engaged in this work of relief.

ITALIANS ACTIVE IN RELIEF.

Inasmuch as the Italian Government and people, through organizations and individually, have reported regularly through the press, and will without doubt officially report fully the relief work performed by them, this brief and informal report will be confined, as is understood to be requested, simply to the relief work of Americans.

It should be said, however, that collectively and individually Italy and the Italians have applied their energies unremittingly to the relief of those stricken by this vast calamity.

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SHE OF THE RED CROSS

BY

JAMES HAY, Jr.

SHE fulfills the dramatic destiny of woman,

Because she stands, valiant, in the presence of pestilence,

And faces woe unafraid,

And binds up the wounds made by the wars of men.

She fights to defeat pain,

And to conquer torture,

And to cheat death of his untimely prey.

And her combat is for neither glory nor gain, but, with charity and mercy and compassion as her weapons, she storms incessantly the ramparts of grief.

There thrills through her life never the sharp, sudden thunder of the charge, never the swift and ardent rush of the short, decisive conflict—the tumult of applauding nations does not reach her ears—and the courage that holds her heart high comes from the voice of her own invincible soul.

She fulfills the dramatic destiny of woman because, reared to await the homage of man and to receive his service, she becomes, when the war trumps sound, the servitor of the world,

And because, whenever men have gone into battle, women have borne the real burden of the fray,

And because, since the beginning of time, man when he is hurt or maimed turns to her and finds, in her tenderness, the consolation and the comfort which she alone can give.

Thus, She of the Red Cross stands today, as woman has stood always, the most romantic, the most courageous and the most merciful figure in all history.

She is the Valor of the World.

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AMERICAN RED CROSS TRAINED NURSES AND SURGEONS IN A GERMAN MILITARY HOSPITAL IN KOSEL. MISS FRANCES H MEYER, OF BROOKLYN, SEATED IN THE CENTER IN THE TOP PICTURE, IS THE SUPERVISING NURSE. DR GILBERT L. BAILEY, OF CHICAGO, IS THE DIRECTING SURGEON.

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THE WORLD'S GREATEST RELIEF PROBLEM

The Conditions in the Several Hotbeds of the European War Territory are here Described by one who has Personally Investigated Them

BY ERNEST P. BICKNELL

National Director of the American Red Cross; Member of The Rockefeller Foundation European War Relief Commission

EDITOR'S NOTE.—*We are privileged here to present a concise yet comprehensive story of the relief situation throughout the European war area as it impressed an experienced and skilled relief officer. An official interpretation of the Treaty of Geneva made at the last annual meeting of the American Red Cross, December 9, 1914, was to the effect that the American Red Cross could not wisely undertake the distribution of non-combatant relief, nor, being a neutral organization, could it undertake its division between different countries or nations. It could act as intermediary in the receipt of such supplies only. Confining its European operations, therefore, largely to the impartial care of the sick and wounded of the armies and navies of the belligerant nations, the American Red Cross was glad to be able to aid in the wholesale non-combatant relief work which the Rockefeller Foundation launched shortly after the outbreak of the war by lending to the Foundation the services of its National Director, Mr. Ernest P. Bicknell. The subjoined article, written by Mr. Bicknell in the Hotel Adalon, Berlin, the middle of April, after he had visited every part of the vast war-stricken area, came in the form of a letter to the Acting National Director of the American Red Cross, Mr. S. P. Morris.*

AS IS well known, the American Red Cross has sent Red Cross units or Missions into all the belligerent countries. I have had an opportunity to see the work of some of these Units and to hear directly of the work of others. There is no doubt that these groups of American doctors and trained nurses have acquitted themselves with exceptional credit and wherever they are located their work stands out conspicuously because of its efficiency. Some of our surgeons have built up very unusual reputations for coolness and skill in dealing with situations of extreme difficulty.

It has to be remembered that the heads of these Red Cross Units must not only be skillful surgeons and doctors but must also assume heavy administrative duties. The hospitals which have been placed in charge of our Units cover a wide range of capacity in convenience and equipment. In no instance is it a case of what the physicians and nurses would prefer. They must accept the circumstances in which they find themselves and make the most of the conveniences and facilities or the lack of conveniences and facilities, as the case may be.

CONDITIONS VARY.

Thus our Units in England find themselves in a splendid mansion, midst beautiful surroundings at Paignton in Southern England, while at the other extreme, our Units Numbers Two and Three in Serbia, found themselves in an ancient and dilapidated tobacco warehouse, lacking in almost every essential for comfort, equipment and opportunity for the best work. While the Units in England are prepared to give ample attention and the best of opportunities for recovery to the two or three hundred patients in their care, the two Serbian Units mentioned, at Djevdjeli (commonly spelled Gevgelia in the United States), found themselves trying to do what was necessary for fourteen hundred patients under circum-

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE WAR RELIEF COMMISSION OF THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION IN ROTTERDAM, HOLLAND, ENGAGED IN NON COMBATANT RELIEF.

stances of the most extreme difficulty. In every instance, however, our Units have bravely and uncomplainingly made the best of the situation in which they found themselves.

It seems but fair to make special mention of the work of our doctors and nurses in Serbia. At Djevdjeli, where conditions for work were about as bad as could be well imagined, our Units found themselves suddenly in the midst of a terrible outbreak of typhus fever. Living as our doctors and nurses did, almost among the patients with no opportunity to protect themselves, they began one by one and in swift succession to come down with the deadly fever themselves. Doctors Donnelly and Magruder fell, martyrs to the disease, and more than half of our entire force in both Units fell into the clutches of the fever within a very short period of time.

SHELLS SHRIEK OVER HOSPITAL.

At Belgrade, where our Serbian Unit Number One was installed, conditions for work were much better. The Unit was placed in charge of a large and fairly modern military hospital and the doctors and nurses were provided with living quarters which enabled them to exist in reasonable comfort and to guard their own health. As it happened, Belgrade became the center of a great deal of extremely fierce fighting and the American Red Cross hospital found itself in the center of a tremendous battle. Shells by the score went screaming and whistling through the air above the hospital buildings with shrapnel bursting all about. One can imagine the intense strain through which the nurses and doctors must have passed during the hours through which the battle continued. All were instructed to remain closely in doors and with an exhibition of restraint and courage of which we may well be proud, our American nurses and doctors continued in the discharge of their duties, going about the wards and looking after the needs of their patients One volunteer nurse, a young Serbian woman, ventured into the grounds while the battle continued and was struck and severely wounded by a fragment of a bursting shell. Happily, however, her wound was not fatal.

After the battle another period of anxiety and stress followed because the Serbian army was obliged to retreat and Bel-

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ASSORTING AND DISTRIBUTING AMERICAN RELIEF SUPPLIES IN ROTTERDAM

grade fell into the hands of the victorious Austrian troops. Dr. Ryan (since taken down with typhus), the head of the Unit, and his doctors and nurses remained at the post of duty, refusing to flee to the interior with the frightened population although strongly urged to do so. One can imagine the suspense with which the little force remaining in the hospital must have awaited the coming of the victorious army. It is a pleasure to be able to say, however, that the incoming Austrian forces treated our American mission with the greatest courtesy and consideration Wounded Austrian soldiers began at once to pour into the hospital and were placed in beds alongside of the wounded Serbians who had remained there when the Serbian army retreated.

GREAT INFLUX OF WOUNDED.

The influx of wounded men following the battle was so great that it quickly became totally impossible to care for all In one day 3,000 wounded men were brought to the hospital. They were laid upon the floors, in the corridors, and upon the ground outside the buildings. Although the doctors and nurses worked day and night it was physically impossible to even examine the wounds of many. Dr. Ryan thereupon requested the commander-in-chief of the Austrian forces to undertake the removal of many of the wounded men across the rivers Danube and Save, which separate Serbia and Austria, and to convey them into the interior of Austria for treatment. The Austrian commander readily complied and in a few days the situation was greatly improved. During the two weeks in which the Austrian forces remained in possession of Belgrade, Dr. Ryan and his staff of doctors and nurses not only endeared themselves to the Austrian authorities but also strongly protected the interests of the Serbians who had been left in their care. On withdrawing from Belgrade the Serbian military authorities had placed under Dr. Ryan's care all the hospitals in Belgrade and so well did he guard these institutions, as well as many Serbian interests which professionally scarcely fell within his jurisdiction, that he has become a popular hero in Serbia. After the Austrian army had retired and the Serbian forces had again taken possession of Belgrade, Dr. Ryan was requested to retain control of all the hospitals in the city with a capacity of about 3,000 patients.

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PROMOTING INDUSTRY AMONG THE THOUSANDS OF BELGIAN REFUGEES IN HOLLAND

A fact in which every friend of the American Red Cross may find the keenest satisfaction is that our doctors and nurses have been equal to every emergency in which they have found themselves and whether they have been placed in comfortable surroundings or otherwise, they have all found it necessary to meet many difficult and perplexing conditions.

EVERYTHING SUBORDINATED TO WAR.

It is, I take it, not easy for our people at home, no matter how carefully they read the stories of the war, to form a just idea of the complete uprooting of everything which makes for orderly, normal and secure existence in the countries engaged in war. Every resource of all the great powers of Europe is strained to the breaking point in one gigantic effort to kill men, destroy property, and to make life absolutely intolerable. Every other interest, social, educational, religious and commercial is completely subordinated to this one awful purpose.

As the work of the Red Cross is devoted to helping to ameliorate the sufferings of wounded and sick soldiers, so the work of the Rockefeller Foundation War Relief Commission is devoted to an attempt to do something to relieve the conditions of distress which exist among the civilian populations of those sections of Europe which have been trampled and torn and despoiled by the war.

The particular areas to which the attention and sympathy of the War Relief Commission have been directed are Belgium, including Belgian refugees in Holland, the Northern margin of France which lies between the Southern border of Belgium and the present fighting line, that part of Russian Poland which is now occupied by the Austrian and German armies, that part of Galicia which has been converted into one huge battlefield by the Russian and Austrian armies, and virtually the entire territory of Serbia which is suffering not alone from destitution but is at present in the clutches of a deadly and widespread epidemic of typhus

RELIEF PROBLEM IN A NUTSHELL.

I need scarcely say that the War Relief Commission alone would be totally unable to grapple effectively with the conditions of distress in all these great areas. The entire present population of Belgium, estimated at about 7,000,000 persons, must be supported from the food imported by the Commission for Relief in Belgium. In the section of Northern France mentioned it is estimated that the population is 2,500,000, the Belgium refugees in Holland number about 200,000; the population of that part of Russian Poland above described is estimated at about 6,000,000; while the population of that part of Galicia which has been overrun by the contending armies includes not fewer than 3,000,000 people. While the entire population of Serbia does not require assistance, the epidemic of typhus and other diseases extends to almost every section of the country and any effort to stamp out these diseases and to care for the destitute, to be effective must involve vast sanitary measures

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PAGET WARD IN THE AMERICAN WOMEN'S WAR RELIEF HOSPITAL, PAIGNTON, ENGLAND. THIS BIG HOSPITAL IS UNDER THE CHARGE OF AMERICAN RED CROSS SURGEONS AND TRAINED NURSES

which will include almost the entire population of 4,500,000. Here, then, we find a series of situations calling for active and effective assistance for a total population equal to one-fifth of the population of the United States.

In Belgium the Rockefeller Foundation War Relief Commission has contributed to the great organization of the Commission for Relief in Belgium which is almost entirely an American agency. This agency has gathered contributions of money and food supplies from the United States and other countries and has also been entrusted with the expenditure of a large sum of money provided by the government and the banks of Belgium. The same agency is now extending its work into Northern France. It should be added that while all the food consumed in Belgium is provided by the Commission for Relief in Belgium a majority of the population is able to pay for this food and the money received from sales is expended in further relief work.

CHOLERA COMES WITH SPRING.

In Serbia the War Relief Commission of the Foundation and the American Red Cross have now joined hands in an attempt to move effectively upon the epidemics. Typhus, while being much the most serious, is by no means the only contagious disease from which Serbia is suffering. Cholera, more deadly and more dreaded than typhus, is appearing with the warm weather of spring and the most radical preventive measures will be necessary if it is to be checked before it sweeps the country. Typhoid is also claiming thousands of victims while smallpox and scarlet fever are present and require attention. Governmental and private agencies in Great Britain and France are joining with the United States in this effort to save Serbia and it is hoped that by thus uniting all the available forces from three countries a vast change for the better may be brought about within the next two or three months.

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ENCOURAGING INDUSTRY.

In Holland the destitute Belgian refugees are provided with shelter and food by the Government in a large number of camps which have been established for the purpose. Finding a severe need for clothing, especially underclothing, the War Relief Commission decided to undertake an industrial experiment. Accordingly the Commission proposed to the Holland Government that it would establish sewing departments in the camps which would give useful employment to many women and would at the same time enable the camps to provide themselves with the underwear required. The Dutch Government accepted this proposal and the Foundation has now in operation industrial departments in 34 camps where employment is given 5,000 or more women in sewing and knitting. The managers of the camps have expressed much satisfaction at the improved atmosphere and morale of the camps since these industries were set going. * * * March 31, the industrial departments in the camps had completed more than 30,000 new garments for distribution as well as many thousand pairs of stockings.

Plans are just now maturing for the establishment of a Commission for Relief in Poland similar in form of organization and in purpose to the Commission for Relief in Belgium. The Commission for Relief in Poland is being organized by the War Relief Commission of the Rockefeller Foundation. It will be a strictly neutral agency, managed and directed by Americans under the chairmanship of the Honorable James W. Gerard, American Ambassador in Germany. The Rockefeller Foundation will assume all the administrative expenses of conducting and maintaining the Commission for Relief in Poland but will look to contributions from the United States and Germany and elsewhere to provide the money necessary for the purchase of food supplies. As Poland is far in the interior of Europe difficulties of transportation, as well as diplomatic questions growing out of the necessity for transporting supplies through the territory of other countries, are perplexing in the extreme. The difficulties are increased by the fact that Poland has no canals, such as have helped the work in Belgium, has few railroads, and few country roads of a character to allow the convenient transport of supplies by horse or ox cart. It is hoped that the committees in the United States which are interested in the welfare of the Poles, both Christian and Jewish, will contribute generously to the very large amount of money which will be necessary to enable the American committee to meet the situation in Poland adequately. It has been estimated that food supplies and seed for planting of a value of probably $5,000,000 will be necessary to meet the actual minimum requirements in Poland until the new crop is harvested in the latter part of August.

In Galicia no agency has as yet undertaken relief measures although an Austrian committee is endeavoring to provide relief for a large number of Galician Poles who have fled to Vienna for refuge and who are said to be in entire destitution. Whether the War Relief Commission of the Rockefeller Foundation will find it possible to extend its relief operations beyond those in hand has not yet been decided. It is obvious, however, as before stated, that the means at the command of the War Relief Commission must be totally inadequate to meet such situations as now exist in Europe and which call for the generous and sympathetic help of all the world.

READY FOR THE CIRCUS

Freddie—Are you the trained nurse mamma said was coming?
Nurse—Yes, dear, I'm the trained nurse.
Freddie—Let's see some of your tricks, then!—*Seattle Star.*

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OUR OTTOMAN BRANCH

Typhus and Wounds Give American Red Cross Chapter Much to do in the Sublime Porte. It is Operating Fifteen Hospitals

BY WILFRED MacILVAINE POST, M. D.
Director of American Red Cross Hospitals in Turkey's Capital

THE American National Red Cross is the only neutral branch of the International Red Cross which has undertaken work in Turkey during the present war. The Ottoman Red Crescent and the German Red Cross are working chiefly at the front but it has fallen to the American Red Cross to spread its activities over a broad field and through the American mission hospitals it is at present ministering to sick and wounded soldiers in various cities reaching from Constantinople to Van and, by means of the Beirut Chapter, in the Arabic-speaking part of the Empire as well.

The Constantinople Chapter commenced its work in the latter part of November by taking charge of the British and French hospitals in this city. By a special agreement between the Ottoman authorities and the American Ambassador these two fine hospitals were alloted to us for the care of soldiers giving us 150 beds available in the Capital. Soon afterwards we likewise arranged to put the American mission hospitals at Konia, Cesarea, Marsovan, Erzroum, Sivas, Harpout, Aintab, Latakia, Adana, Mersin, Mardin, Diarbekir and Van at the disposal of the Government for similar purposes, thus making the very substantial total of 1,000 beds in 15 well manned and equipped hospitals which we have offered for the care of sick and wounded soldiers without cost to the Government.

Wounded Tied on Back of Oxen.

Reports from the front tell of active work in Van, Erzroum, Sivas and Konia. Writing from Van Dr. Ussher describes the conditions in his field as calling for liberal aid. There was great suffering among the families of the soldiers. He had trained a small ambulance corps in transporting sick and wounded and was already receiving the latter into his hospital. He described many of the wounded as at first being brought in on rude ox carts or, what was worse, tied to the back of oxen which were driven along and often the unfortunate patient would have slipped from the position in which he had first been tied and would be almost dragged along the ground.

Dr. Stapleton wrote from Erzroum asking for equipment for 200 beds as conditions were most urgent. The authorities in Constantinople admit that there are multitudes of wounded in that city and that typhus is raging. Our Dr. Sewny who went from Sivas to Erzroum fell an early victim to typhus and died almost before his mission of mercy had commenced. Suleiman Nouman Pasha, Inspector-General of the Military Sanitation Department, went to Erzroum recently and is reported also ill with typhus.

Typhus Raging in Turkey.

Sivas was reported a couple of months ago as suffering from an epidemic of typhus among the soldiers, and Dr. Dodd writes from Konia that the same is true of that city. Dr. Dodd has been treating sick soldiers in our hospital at Konia, our 40 beds being usually filled with them, and his work is in high favor with the authorities. In order to protect the rest of the patients he had to remove typhus cases to a special building about one-half mile from the city proper; this building was already becoming overcrowded. Fortunately by prompt isolation and careful disinfection he was able to prevent the spread of the disease in the hospital. His observations confirm

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AMERICAN RED CROSS HOSPITAL, GALATA

the view that the common louse is the principal carrier of infection, and that perfect cleanliness is the greatest prophylactic against infection. Following are some extracts from recent letters:

"There are now nearly 60 patients at the typhus hospital, a large part of whom have come from the prison, but there have been a good many cases also in town brought by soldiers from the labor regiments." He also writes: "It is certainly a most merciful work * * * if you could only see the wretched cases that come here * * * principally from the labor regiments, middle-aged men. Some come staggering in unable to walk, some are carried in on the backs of their comrades, some are able bodied and can soon return to service."

OTHER HOSPITALS TAKEN OVER.

In Constantinople, as already mentioned, the British and French hospitals, were secured for Red Cross work. A large sign reading: "AMERICAN RED CROSS HOSPITAL," was placed over the entrance of each and the American flag flies from the mast of each on Sundays and holidays. These two hospitals are well-known to all who know Constantinople, but the accompanying photographs showing "Old Glory" flying at the masthead reveal them passing through an interesting phase of their history. At present I am acting as Director of both hospitals, but my work is simplified by the fact that almost the whole staff of both hospitals remain on duty.

At the French hospital Drs. de Lacombe and Arié have gone, having left for France early in the war, and there remain on the staff 15 French Sisters of Charity and 6 physicians and surgeons, Greeks and Armenians, besides the regular orderlies and servants. Dr. McClean and his assistant, together with the regular staff of nurses remain at the British hospital. Both hospitals are finely equipped and up to date, and as not only the apparatus but also the personnel of the

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STAFF OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS HOSPITAL, TAXIM
Front Row, from reader's left—Dr. W. M. Post, head surgeon, author of this article; Mother Superior of Catholic Institute; U. S. Ambassador Morgenthau, chairman of Red Cross Chapter; Mrs. Morgenthau; U. S. Consul General Ravndal, Secretary of Red Cross Chapter; Mr. W. W. Peet.

hospitals come under our direction free of charge the initial expense has been very small.

Robert College has loaned us 50 bedsteads and mattresses, and the Government 30 bedsteads with bedding, to provide for the unusual number of patients that we wish to be prepared for. The ladies' committee of the Red Cross, with Mrs. Morgenthau as chairman, have done fine work in making sheets, pillow-covers and patients' clothing. The two hospitals have allowed us to utilize their supplies of fuel, soap, drugs, dressings, etc., without asking for reimbursement. This is a happy arrangement as it allows us to carry on the work much more cheaply than if we had to stock the hospitals ourselves and also relieves us of great expense.

AMERICAN TRANSPORT IS USED.

Our expectation had been to commence at once receiving wounded soldiers from the Caucasian front, and with this object in view I went with Suleiman Pacha to inspect the American steamer Washington then in the Bosphorus with a view to her being fitted up as a Red Cross ship and sent up the Black Sea to transport wounded soldiers to Constantinople. The Red Crescent ships have been unable to circulate on the Black Sea and so the authorities were doubly glad of our plan. The Red Crescent society planned to send its own doctors, nurses and supplies under the Red Cross flag, but eventually this plan had to be abandoned for diplomatic reasons. The Washington, however, has been in constant use for the transport of hospital supplies, drugs, etc. to various points along the Black Sea coast to be turned over to local medical authorities and many lives have thus been saved.

Note.—The Washington later was sunk.

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AMERICAN RED CROSS HOSPITAL, TAXIM

HOSPITALS FILLED QUICKLY.

The first plan having failed we next offered to take in sick soldiers from the garrisons and soon had both our hospitals full, 100 soldiers in the French and 40 in the British. The cases thus far sent to us have been mostly surgical, suffering from rupture and other chronic complaints, and we have had a number of medical cases also. We have had far more applications for admission than we could accept; during the last six weeks we have treated some 165 soldiers. We have been busy operating at both hospitals, having sometimes as many as 10 operations a day. As the conditions facing convalescents upon their return to the garrisons are very far from ideal we are keeping our patients for a longer time than is usually the case, the average stay being about 25 days. The buildings are kept warm and the soldiers are comfortable and happy with plenty of good food to eat, and quite loath to return to the garrisons when the time comes to leave.

The work accomplished thus far in Constantinople, while costing in the aggregate about Lt. 750.00 has really been done very cheaply, for as there has been no expense for rent or salaries and very little for apparatus, drugs and surgical supplies, the average cost to the Red Cross per patient has been not more than 17 piastres a day, everything included, a small expenditure in view of the increased cost of living in time of war.

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THANK YOU, AMERICA!

BOTH sides in the raging European conflict continue to receive shipments of American Red Cross relief supplies, as evidenced by letters and messages of acknowledgement. The fact that the supplies get through in practically every instance is more than gratifying to the organization, and these various communications referred to indicate that the recipients appreciate the humanitarianism of the American people. It is for the information of the many thousands of liberal supporters through the American Red Cross of the gigantic relief undertaking abroad that the subjoined letters are published.

German Empress is Grateful

Through the German Ambassador, Count von Bernstorff, Her Majesty, the Empress of Germany, has expressed her appreciation of the services of American Red Cross surgeons and enrolled Red Cross trained nurses in Germany, and for numerous shipments of medical and surgical supplies. Count von Bernstorff's letter, dated May 3, says:

"I have been commanded by Her Majesty the Empress and have the honor to convey to you and to the American Red Cross Society Her Majesty's most heartfelt thanks for your continued and generous activity in forwarding charitable gifts to Germany and for the services rendered by the American delegation of five doctors and twenty-two nurses who are doing splendid work in Silesia."

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CHILDREN OF GERMAN SOLDIERS AT THE FRONT, WHOSE MOTHERS CANNOT SUPPORT THEM, BEING FED AND OTHERWISE CARED FOR IN THE GERMAN CAPITAL. THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF THESE LITTLE ONES IN BERLIN. THIS GROUP APPEARS HAPPY AND UNMINDFUL OF THE STRESSFUL TIMES

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AUSTRIANS RECEIVE SUPPLIES

The following is part of a letter received from Count Rudolf Traun, President of the Austrian Red Cross, dated in Vienna, April 18:

"The Austrian Red Cross Society has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the generous shipment of wearing apparel, linen and hospital supplies on the steamer Finnland via Genoa, addressed to Vienna, also the safe arrival of the four motor ambulances on the steamer Cretic donated by the students of Harvard and Yale, both of which consignments reached us in perfect condition.

Photo by Underwood & Underwood

A FORLORN FIGURE ON THE BLOOD-SPATTERED STEPS OF A RED CROSS HOSPITAL IN SERBIA. THE AMERICAN RED CROSS IS STRUGGLING TO CONQUER A TYPHUS EPIDEMIC IN THIS COUNTRY.

"In accordance with your esteemed instructions we forwarded two motor ambulances and half of the consignment to the Hungarian Red Cross.

"We are also in receipt of notice of shipment of another consignment on the steamer Canopic of 379 cases and will promptly inform you of their condition on arrival, and forward to the Hungarian Red Cross such parcels as designated by you.

"It is with sincere pleasure that we again have an opportunity to express * * * our hearty and deeply felt thanks for these munificent donations.

"We would be greatly obligated to you for the favor of kindly conveying to the esteemed and merciful students of the Universities of Yale and Harvard our sincere feelings of gratefulness, which we entertain toward them for their noble act of humaneness prompted by their fine appreciation of the lot of the sick and suffering soldier."

The joy which is experienced by the relief workers in Europe in receiving and unpacking relief supplies sent from the United States is indicated somewhat by a letter received by the American Red Cross from Miss Margot Potter, an American who is in Pau, France.

"The eight cases you sent addressed to the American Red Cross Hospital here arrived last Monday," she writes under date of April 11. "You cannot imagine how pleased we all were at receiving them.

"It was a perfect field day in the Hospital when the boxes were unpacked. Most of the doctors, nurses and the convalescent patients assisted at the operation, and every one had such a good time.

COMFORT BAGS PLEASE FRENCH

"What pleased the patients most were the fascinating comfort bags which we have told them shall be distributed to the men who leave the hospital to return to the front. I think now they will all want the doctors to declare they are fit to return to the front so as to get a bag.

"Ever since the boxes have been unpacked we are besieged with the question as to whether we will not give them a 'pipe Americaine,' and I think even the doctors would have liked some of the American tobacco.

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"I saw the little note you had pinned on one of the packages saying the contents had been knit by an old lady of ninety-three, of Cambridge, Mass., who had served as a nurse during the Civil War. If you know who the lady is, will you tell her that her gifts will be given to the French soldiers returning to the front, by a woman whose father fought in the Civil War. I will see that her things are given to special hospital pets and they shall be told about the lady who knit them.

"The six new nurses arrived day before yesterday and seem to be pleased with the hospital here."

ENGLISH AND SERBIAN MESSAGES

Sir William Garstin, Chief of the Supply Division of the British Red Cross, writing from London April 16, acknowledged receipt of 236 cases of stores sent by the American Red Cross.

"I find it difficult adequately to express our gratitude for this splendid consignment," says Sir William. "I can only ask you to be kind enough to convey to the Chairman and Committee of your Society our very warm thanks for these generous and most welcome gifts.

"The list of articles despatched shows how carefully they have been selected, and everything that has been sent will prove of the greatest use to our hospitals, and will materially assist in mitigating the sufferings of our sick and wounded soldiers. We shall at once begin to distribute these stores, and the donors may rest assured that their kindness will be fully appreciated.

"The twenty-five cases marked for the French Wounded Emergency Fund have been sent to 34 Lowndes Square, S. W., as requested by you."

From Dr. V. M. Soubotitch, Vice-President of the Serbian Red Cross, comes the following message from Nish:

"We have the honor to inform you that your gifts sent by the (steamers) Finnland and the Earl of Elgin have been received with the greatest and most cordial thanks.'

TENNYSON'S REMARKABLE PROPHECY

From "Locksley Hall"

For I dipt into the future, far as human eye could see,
Saw the Vision of the world, and all the wonder that would be;
Saw the heavens fill with commerce, argosies of magic sails;
Pilots of the purple twilight, dropping down with costly bales;
Heard the heavens fill with shouting, and there rained a ghastly dew
From the nations' airy navies grappling in the central blue;
Far along the world-wide whisper of the south-wind rushing warm,
With the standards of the peoples plunging through the thunderstorm;
Till the war-drum throbb'd no longer, and the battle-flags were furl'd
In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world.
There the common sense of most shall hold a fretful realm in awe,
And the kindly earth shall slumber, lapt in universal law.

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RECENT MEXICAN ACTIVITIES

By S. P. MORRIS

Acting National Director of the American Red Cross

THE contemplated relief expedition into Mexico in January of this year having been rendered impossible by the reopening of hostilities throughout the Northern States of that country, the national office has carried on several minor relief operations during the past few weeks.

At Vera Cruz, a number of Mexican school teachers who remained at their post during the occupation by American troops, have since become financially distressed through the loss of their positions, and a small sum was placed in the hands of the American Consul at that point to tide them over until new positions can be secured.

At El Paso, Texas, the problem of caring for about 4,000 Mexican refugees, mostly women and children, having been carried for several months by various independent benevolent activities of El Paso, is now being given attention by a special committee, composed of representatives of the army and immigration departments of the Government, of the city officials, of the commercial bodies, of local philanthropic organizations, and representatives from the El Paso Chapter of the Red Cross. To this committee the American Red Cross is making a small contribution to be added to the fund that they are gathering locally. The committee is making a systematic study of the entire problem with a view to finding some practical solution, by employment or otherwise, of the destitution existing at that point. This excellent arrangement is the result of the work of Mr. C. J. O'Connor, the Director of the Pacific Division of the Red Cross, who went to El Paso to study and report on the conditions there. It was made possible by the splendid cooperation of the El Paso Chapter, represented by Dr. H. E. Stevenson, the Chairman, and Dr. C. F. Braden, the Secretary.

At Laredo, Texas, provision was made in the event of a battle at Neuvo Laredo, Mexico, for the proper care of any wounded Mexicans who, for humanitarian reasons, would have been brought across the international boundary. Enrolled Red Cross nurses from the El Paso and San Antonio Committees held themselves in readiness to leave immediately had their services been required.

War Relief in Brownsville.

The major activity has been at Brownsville, Texas, where, on March 27, following the battle between the Mexican armies at Matamoros, Mexico, 220 wounded Mexicans were brought into United States territory. Three hospitals were opened—one in a skating rink, one in a theatre, and one at the Charity Hospital. Dr. James L. Rentfro, of Brownsville, recommended to us by Captain Frederick Starr Wright, of the Medical Corps, U. S. A., was chosen as the Red Cross Special Representative, and the work was carried forward under the joint direction of Captain Wright, for the United States Army, and Dr. Rentfro for the Red Cross. They were assisted in the medical and surgical work by Drs. Dickinson and Lawrence, of Brownsville.

Upon receipt of a request by wire from Dr. Rentfro, the National Director's office requisitioned Miss Jane A. Delano, Chairman of the National Committee on Red Cross Nursing Service, for four enrolled Red Cross nurses, and, within a few hours after the receipt of the request, Nurses Mrs. Lydia Drouet and Miss Harriet Mae, of Houston, Texas, and Misses Antoinette Alschier and Katherine Justice of Dallas, Texas, left for

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Brownsville. The number of injured required the services of three additional nurses, and Misses Katherine Ott and Sonora Ponder, of Dallas, and Miss Jessie M. Burt, of Houston, immediately entrained for Brownsville. In conformity with Red Cross procedure Miss Antoinette Alschier was appointed supervising nurse.

The promptness with which the nurses were secured and started upon their journeys, and their records for efficiency in handling the patients, all attest the splendid development of this department of the Red Cross work.

Dr. Rentfro reports that he placed the management of the business details in the hands of Mr. H. C. Harrison, who for several years has been a member of the American Red Cross. Dr. Rentfro speaks in the highest terms of the thoroughness with which Mr. Harrison completed all arrangements, of his tireless personal efforts in handling the various matters of business administration and of his attention to the comfort of the Red Cross personnel. Mr. Harrison's home is at Cerralio, Neuvo Leon, Mexico, but he is temporarily living in Brownsville because of disturbed conditions in that country.

PEOPLE CONTRIBUTE GENEROUSLY.

The people of Brownsville contributed generously all character of supplies needed, and through Mr. Harrison's efforts a large share of the subsistence cost of caring for the wounded was secured from General Villa's consul. The wounded were Villa soldiers.

Notwithstanding the severity of the wounds of many of the soldiers, the efficiency of the work done by Dr. Rentfro, his associates, and the Red Cross nurses is attested by the fact that but 12 deaths occurred out of 220 wounded under their care. At the present writing (May 5), all of the wounded but 14 have so far recovered as to be able to return to their land. Five of the nurses have been relieved. Miss Alschier and Miss Justice remain on duty to care for those most seriously wounded who are not yet sufficiently recovered to be discharged from the hospital.

As fast as recovery would permit, the convalescents were returned to the headquarters of their own armies by the United States Immigration authorities, assisted by the United States military officials.

The entire operation has been businesslike and efficient, and has reflected great credit upon all charged with its activities.

REFUGEES AT GALVESTON.

At Galveston, Texas, 293 American refugees from the port of Tampico were landed by the Transport Sumner. Of this number approximately 90 were destitute, and about 67 of these were provided with transportation to their homes at the expense of the United States Government. The remaining 23, having been brought out of Mexico on a previous occasion at the expense of the government, and having returned to Mexico in disregard of the advice of the State Department, were informed, embarking on the transport, that governmental assistance to them would be limited to free passage to Galveston. Through Rabbi Henry Cohen, an oft-time and tireles friend of the Red Cross, a small contribution was made by the American Red Cross to prevent actual suffering among this last group of refugees. At this time plans are being formulated at Galveston for their future care.

Although but meager funds thus far have been contributed for the relief of those suffering from the Mexican situation, the Red Cross nevertheless has carried on such forms of relief as the disturbed conditions would warrant.

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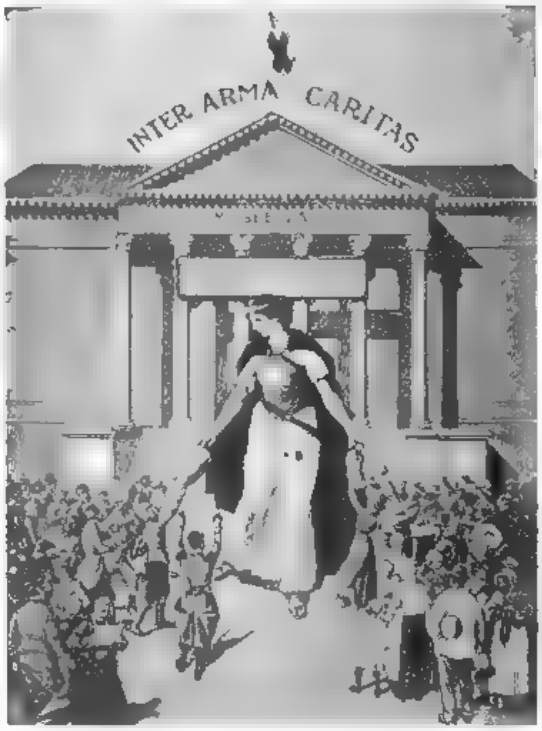
THE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS

INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS COMMITTEE ADOPT REGULATIONS WHICH URGE A GENEROUS AND UNIFORM ATTITUDE

THE work of the Bureau of Prisoners, operated in Geneva, Switzerland, under the direction of the International Red Cross Committee, of which Mr. Gustave Ador is chairman, has become of great volume and of incalculable importance.

The illustration accompanying this article pictures Switzerland, under the banner of the Red Cross, serving as the benign intermediary for the prisoners of all the nations involved in this terrible struggle and their dear ones at home. The picture was taken from a post card received at American Red Cross headquarters in Washington from the Bureau of Prisoners. Beneath the picture was a bit of verse in French by Rouget, the literal translation of which follows:

"Give! It is for thy son. Take! It is from thy mother.
You—bound by the bitter yoke of discord;
Parents in tears; sisters and brothers; enemies—
I come to put honey into your bitter cup!
There are evils, alas! that I cannot cure
In desolate places where prowl the wolves.
It is to me, Switzerland, that the role is given
To open a flower of love in a desert of hate."



Following are regulations touching equality of treatment for military and civil prisoners of war incorporated in a circular addressed to the chairmen and members of the central committees of the Red Cross throughout the world, signed by Chairman Ador, of the International Committee, which give an insight into the nature of this departure in Red Cross activities:

For Equality of Treatment

The International Committee, because of its experiences and the records that the direction of the International Bureau of Prisoners has furnished it, is very desirous of arranging an understanding between all the billigerents leading to the assurance of equal treatment of prisoners of war. It therefore takes the liberty to submit to the Central Committees and by them to the different governments, the following propositions:

Pay and Transmittal of Money.—All the officers should receive the pay of their rank and should have the free disposition of same; (Article 17, Convention of The Hague.)

It is also desirable that a modest allowance be made to non-commissioned officers and soldiers.

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The funds sent to prisoners should be taken charge of by the commandant of the camp, and an account should be opened with each prisoner to whom the commandant makes remittances in proportion to the duly recognized needs with the necessary money to pay for the articles that he is authorized to buy.

A prisoner having money at his disposal should be authorized, under the supervision of the commandant, to charge against the credit of his account succor to his needy comrades.

Correspondence.—At least twice a month there should be authorized the distribution, as soon as possible under control and censor, letters addressed to the prisoners or written by them.

Telegrams, Information and News.—Commandants should be requested to reply to telegrams sent by the International Committee, with the reply prepaid.

INFORMATION CONCERNING HEALTH

They should furnish information that is asked of them regarding the health of the prisoners, and communicate to the same news of their families transmitted by the International Committee. They should indicate to which camp prisoners have been transferred, if such are no longer in the camp mentioned on the lists.

Packages.—All packages destined for prisoners should be delivered to them intact, without anything being taken from them, provided, of course, that such packages under inspection contain nothing that is prohibited.

Books.—It should be permitted to prisoners to receive books in their own language including journals and issues of news periodicals. A list or catalogue of the works which could be distributed or put in circulation from one camp to another could be established by the Central Committee of the Red Cross of each country.

Work.—Officers should be allowed to write according to their choice catalogues, copies, inventories, or other work of a like nature.

The soldiers should be employed in the work about the camp. (See the regulations of The Hague, Article 6.)

Above all, inactivity and laziness should be avoided, as they are an unnecessary aggravation of moral suffering of prisoners.

Religious Aid.—Prisoners should be allowed to receive religious aid from ecclesiastics of their confession, and as much as possible in their native language. (Article 18, regulations of The Hague.)

Conferences.—It is also to be desired that to do away with the tedium of inactivity the officers among themselves and the soldiers among themselves be authorized, if they desire, to get up conferences upon neutral subjects (scientific, for example).

AS TO MATERIAL NEEDS

Hygiene.—It is also necessary to permit prisoners to take walks, physical exercise, different games, etc.

The prisoners should be allowed to take baths for cleanliness.

Material Needs.—Prisoners ought to be provided with food, bedding and clothing as the military personnel of the same rank in the country where they are detained. (Article 7, regulations of The Hague).

Buildings where they are placed should be properly heated.

We earnestly hope that these suggestions and wishes, dictated by an experience of several months, may be considered by competent authorities. The quality of the treatment of prisoners appears to us highly desirable, and the facilities accorded in each state to prisoners is the surest and the most noble way of securing reciprocal treatment to their captives.

We therefore hope, Gentlemen, that you will use your influence to have these propositions adopted, and thanking you in advance, we present the assurances of our most distinguished consideration.

We seize the opportunity to recall the interpretation of Articles 9 and 12 of the Convention of Geneva, 1906, by virtue of which official sanitary personnel, as well as those in the service of the Red Cross, should not be treated as prisoners of war, but ought to be returned as soon as their assistance is no longer indispensable.

This personnel should receive the pay of its rank. (Article 13.)

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Photo by Harris & Ewing, Washington.

BRIG.-GEN. CARROLL A. DEVOL, UNITED STATES ARMY

General Devol recently became General Manager of the American Red Cross (See Editorial Comment)

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Happiness should be regarded as the normal condition of life; and when one is below it, he should inquire into the reason, and see if it is not a result of causes which can be removed or changed. No one has any more right to go about unhappy than he has to go about ill-bred. —*Lilian Whiting.*

MORE AND GREATER WORK FOR RED CROSS

Could a state of more general and intense suffering be imagined?

Verily, this is the Hour of the Red Cross. That has been said before. But one climacteric condition has followed and mounted upon another with staggering rapidity.

At this writing there seems to be grave danger of the extension in Europe of that already vast area which is laved by a fierce flame of inevitable consequences of war—a flame which is merciless and no respecter of persons. And as the summer solstice approaches the fight against pestilence will have to increase in intensity. Famine in the various sections of the war territory which have been fought over time and again has caused unutterable misery. And, again, there have been frightful disasters, with great loss of life among non-combatants.

All of this is summed up in that one all-inclusive word WAR.

TRAGEDY AT SEA IS HIGHLY DISTRESSING

Among the many appalling incidents of the Old World war, the loss of over one thousand non-combatants in the sinking of the leviathan steamer Lusitania by a submarine, near Kinsale, Ireland, May 7, stands out as peculiarly distressing. Over 100 of the dead were Americans, and a number of them very prominent Americans. In line with its relief activity in behalf of destitute survivors of the Titanic, and in response to an appeal from the Mayor of Liverpool for aid, the American Red Cross announced its readiness to receive and forward special relief contributions for the distressed American survivors of this sea tragedy. The first donation received for this purpose was $1,000 from the Needlework Guild of America, which has ever been a stanch supporter of the Red Cross, with which it is affiliated.

An earnest little woman who had just completed a successful canvass of the United States for additional funds for the relief of suffering Belgians, Mme. Marie Depage, wife of the Surgeon-in-Chief of the Belgian Red Cross, Prof. Antoine Depage, was among those drowned. Mme. Depage came to the United States hoping to procure some $50,000, and at American Red Cross headquarters one day said she feared her hope would not be realized. But in a few weeks' time that hope was more than realized, in fact, she is said to have procured upwards of $115,000. She took passage on the Lusitania. Her body was recovered May 10.

MAY CONTROL TYPHUS; ACTIVITIES EXTENDED

Coupled with an appeal for more sanitary inspectors and supplies, Dr. Richard P. Strong, head of the commission of plague experts and sanitarians which was sent to Serbia by the American Red Cross, Rockefeller Foundation and Serbian Relief Committee in March, has advised Red Cross headquarters by cable that with the proper facilities the ravages of the typhus epidemic in the Serbian quarter may be controlled at an early date. However, Montenegro, Serbia's neighbor on the west, is in a sore plight due to the general prevalence of typhus and typhoid, and the task of the sanitarians will be extended to that country.

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There are also a large number of wounded in Montenegro needing attention.

The campaign to stamp out menacing epidemics in that part of Southeastern Europe has been planned along international lines by the formation of a large health board of which Prince Alexander of Serbia was made president and Sir Ralph Paget, of England, vice-president. The American contingent was honored by the selection of Dr. Strong as the Medical Director of the entire work of the Board. The membership of the Board includes the heads of the French, Russian and English sanitary commissions. The work is intended for the welfare of all Europe.

Should conditions develop that would make the presence of Maj. Gen. William C. Gorgas, Surgeon General of the United States Army and Chairman of the War Relief Board of the American Red Cross, desirable, he will proceed to Serbia.

GENERAL DEVOL IS GENERAL MANAGER

In the capacity of General Manager, a new and important post created by the Central Committee, Brig. Gen. Carroll A. Devol, of the Quartermaster's Corps, United States Army, came to the American Red Cross May 1. This new office carries with it the duties and responsibilities of the Chairman of the Central Committee in case of the absence or disability of the chairman. General Devol is a seasoned army officer of wide experience and was considered one of the ablest quartermasters in the military establishment.

Beginning his military career in 1879 as a Second Lieutenant of Infantry, he mounted steadily in rank as well as in grade of quartermaster until he had reached a Brigadier Generalship and had served as Acting Quartermaster General of the United States Army. He has had several years' service on the General Staff.

General Devol was welcomed to the humanitarian branch of the Government, not only because of his broad knowledge of military and business affairs, but because he had directed no small amount of relief work for the Government and had voluntarily been of great assistance to the Red Cross. Following the catastrophe in San Francisco in 1906, he directed the Government's relief work there, where he was Depot Quartermaster for the Army. Later, at Panama, where he was Quartermaster, he took upon himself the organization of a Red Cross Chapter which became an excellent branch of and a reliable support to the national relief organization. General Devol directed the Government's end of the relief activities after the Mississippi cyclone of 1908, and also had charge while there of the Red Cross work. For some time prior to his coming to the Red Cross, General Devol was Assistant to the Quartermaster General and directing head of the Transportation Division of that arm of the service.

It is felt at national headquarters that the entire membership of the American Red Cross throughout the United States and abroad is to be warmly congratulated on the acquisition of General Devol.

MR. AND MRS. SCHIFF HELP VISITING NURSES

On the fortieth anniversary of their wedding, May 6, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob H. Schiff, of New York, made a contribution to the Town and Country Nursing Service of the American Red Cross which will be the means of enabling many trained nurses to take the special four-month course to prepare for this branch of American Red Cross work. The sum of $5,000 was given by Mr. and Mrs. Schiff to be used as a separate loan fund for nurses. It will be administered by the Committee on Town and Country Nursing Service, of which Mrs. Harriet Blaine Beale, daughter of the late James G. Blaine, is Chairman.

The schools in which the postgraduate courses may be taken include the Teachers College of Columbia University, the Boston Visiting Nurse Association, Henry Phipps Institute, of Philadelphia, and the Cleveland Visiting Nurse Association. The Colorado University, in conjunction with a Visiting Nurse Association in that section, will also probably offer one of these courses next fall. When a trained nurse makes application for this postgraduate course,

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the application is passed upon by the Superintendent of the Town and Country Nursing Service, Miss Fannie F. Clement, who files a recommendation with the Chairman of the Committee, who in turn takes the final action.

The demand for American Red Cross visiting nurses has been considerably in excess of the number of nurses available. The visiting nurse is especially prepared for public health nursing—for school and infant nursing, welfare work and home care of the sick—and is fitted to give instruction and to direct community betterment work.

Mr. Schiff, who is Treasurer of the New York State Board of the American Red Cross, has been a frequent and a very liberal contributor to the relief work of the Red Cross.

HERE IS AN EXAMPLE WORTHY OF EMULATION

"The attainment of a membership of considerably over 500 in five months by the new Red Cross Chapter in Berkeley, Cal., is a matter of pride and gratification to me," writes Mr. Charles J. O'Connor, Director of the Pacific Division of the American Red Cross.

"The plan of work was simple. The membership committee divided the city into twelve districts, each of which was assigned to a volunteer worker called a captain. Each captain selected from the people in her district whatever number of volunteers she thought best, being careful to choose those who had a wide acquaintance in the district and were of suitable personality. The workers took those parts of the districts where they were best known. The geographical arrangement was followed for a time as most systematic, but later it was abandoned and the workers got members wherever they could. Strangers were not solicited. Each worker carried a receipt book so arranged that accounting was easy.

"At first there was a little modest advertising in newspapers and by placards, but nothing sensational was undertaken. There was no whirlwind campaign.

"The work was done without fuss or noise by a group of devoted women who shrank from publicity and thought only of the mission of the Red Cross. Those who took part first acquired a knowledge of the organization of the society, of its methods of work, and of its policies, in order to convey this to their neighbors and friends and to answer questions. The rest was easy. There is now a firm foundation for future increase. Several people have complained that they had not been asked to become members.

"All of this was done by a newly organized chapter, in the midst of special appeals by various committees working in behalf of different nations. It shows clearly that only two things are essential to secure a large membership for the Red Cross; to inform people of the work done by the society and of the spirit of that work, and to make it convenient for them to pay the annual fee of one dollar while they feel the impulse to do so."

Mr. O'Connor's comment is ours.

CHILDREN TOIL FOR THE RED CROSS

In a round and laborious childish scrawl, a note, attached to three knit mufflers, came to the Red Cross a few days ago reading in part as follows:

"Red Cross Society—Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

"We are three children living on a farm in Connecticut. None of us had ever held a knitting needle but we wanted to do something for the soldiers and so we learned to knit and made these scarfs.

"If the war should stop and the soldiers not need the scarfs, we would like to have them go to some of those poor people whose homes have been destroyed."

The little ones who learned to knit and who evidently took much pains with their work in behalf of the European war sufferers, are Marian, Robert and Mabel Bowes, of R. F. D. 28, Cos Cob. Conn.

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FORM OF BEQUEST

A will in the form following may be used to bequeath money for the purposes of the Red Cross. It would be well to have the same signed by THREE WITNESSES in the presence of the testator and of each other.

All legacies, not otherwise specified, are applied to the Endowment Fund.

I, A. B., of_____ (testator's domicil), hereby make and publish the following as my last will and testament:

I give and bequeath to the American National Red Cross, a corporation in the District of Columbia, created by Act of Congress of the United States of America, its successors and assigns, the sum of

_____ Dollars.

(A. B.)_____

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the above named A. B. as and for his last will and testament, in the presence of us, who have hereunto subscribed our names at his request as witnesses theretn, in the presence of the said testator and of each other.

_____

_____

_____

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